

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF VERIZON)	
NORTHWEST'S NOTICE OF ELECTION)	CASE NO. VZN-T-05-4
FOR ITS NORTHERN IDAHO SERVICE)	
TERRITORY)	NOTICE OF ELECTION
)	

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on July 7, 2005, Verizon Northwest Inc. filed a "Notice of Election" for its northern Idaho service territory. More specifically, Verizon stated that it has elected to remove all of its telecommunications services from price regulation by the Commission. Verizon provides local exchange services, intraLATA¹ long-distance services, and other services in 31 exchanges in the "panhandle" region of northern Idaho.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that most of Verizon's telecommunications services provided in northern Idaho have been subject to the Commission's traditional rate regulation found in Title 61 of the Idaho Code. The 2005 Session of the Idaho Legislature amended Section 62-605 of the Idaho Telecommunications Act to allow a telephone corporation to elect to remove some or all of its services from price regulation by the Commission. 2005 Idaho Sess. Laws, Ch. 200, § 2. The amendments to *Idaho Code* § 62-605 became effective July 1, 2005. Under the terms of the amended statute, the Notice filed by Verizon is effective to remove all of its services from price regulation by the Commission as of August 8, 2005.²

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission retains authority under Title 62 to determine non-economic regulatory requirements relating to basic local exchange service "including, but not limited to, such matters as service quality standards, provision of access to carriers providing [long-distance] service, filing of price lists, customer notice and customer relation rules, and billing practices and procedures." *Idaho Code* § 62-605(5)(b). The Commission also retains authority to implement the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 and other statutory duties.

¹ LATA (local access and transport area) is a designated geographic area within which Verizon can transport long-distance calls in its service territory.

² Verizon's stand-alone, basic local exchange service is subject to a price cap increase of no greater than 10% pursuant to *Idaho Code* § 62-605(a).

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Verizon intends to file with the Commission at a later date new "price lists" for its deregulated telecommunications services. On July 27, 2005, Verizon supplemented its Notice of Election and advised the Commission "there will be no changes to the rates, terms and conditions currently contained in the Company's tariffs." Supplement at 1. Pursuant to *Idaho Code* § 62-606, changes to Verizon's service rates will not become effective until "ten (10) days after filing with the Commission, and giving public notice to affected customers."

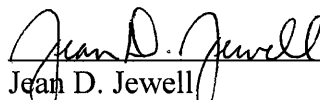
DATED at Boise, Idaho this 2nd day of August 2005.


PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER


DENNIS S. HANSEN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


Jean D. Jewell
Commission Secretary

bls/N:VZN-T-05-04_dh